

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-28 cancelled

29. (currently amended) A method of ~~obtaining~~ identifying a biomarkers of caloric restriction, the method comprising:

a) comparing a gene expression profile from a test caloric-restricted mammal to a gene expression profile from a control mammal of the same age and a gene expression profile from a long term calorie-restricted mammal, wherein the test caloric-restricted mammal is subjected to a period of caloric restriction that is, ~~post-weaning~~, less than life-long; and

b) identifying changes in the gene expression profile that occur in the test caloric-restricted mammal relative to the control mammal, and that correlate with changes in the gene expression profile from the long term calorie-restricted mammal, thereby identifying a biomarker of calorie restriction.

30. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the period of caloric restriction is six weeks or less.

31. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the period of caloric restriction is 2 weeks or less.

32. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the caloric restriction is 2 days or less.

33. (previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the calorie-restricted and control mammals are mature.

34. (previously presented) The method of 29, wherein the calorie-restricted and control mammals are mice.

35-43. (cancelled)

44. (currently amended) A method of ~~obtaining a~~ identifying biomarkers of caloric restriction, the method comprising:

a) comparing a gene expression profile from a young test caloric-restricted animal to a gene expression profile from a control animal that is not caloric-restricted and to a gene expression profile from a long-term calorie-restricted animal, wherein the calorie restriction is less than life-long, and

b) identifying changes in the gene expression profile that occur in the test caloric-restricted animal relative to the control animal and that correlate with changes in the gene expression profile from the long-term calorie restricted animal, thereby identifying a biomarker of calorie restriction.

45. (previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the control animal is the same age as the young caloric-restricted animal.

46. (currently amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising comparing the gene expression profiles from an old animal that is caloric-restricted to the gene expression profiles from the young caloric-restricted animal and the control animal; and identifying changes that occur in both the young and old calorie-restricted animals, but not the control animal, thereby identifying biomarkers of caloric restriction.

47. (currently amended) The method of claim 44, further comprising comparing the gene expression profiles from an old animal that is caloric-restricted to the gene expression profiles from the young caloric-restricted animal and the control animal; and identifying changes in the expression profile that occurs in only the young caloric-restricted animal in comparison to the control animal and old caloric-restricted animal, or identifying changes in the gene expression profile that occurs only in the old caloric-restricted animal in comparison to the control animal and young caloric-restricted animal, thereby identifying a biomarker of caloric restriction.

48. (cancelled)